

FEB 1952 91-444

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECURITY INFORMATION

50X1-HUM

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 1 December 1952

SUBJECT Developments at VEB Elektrochemisches
Kombinat Bitterfeld

NO. OF PAGES 3

DATE OF INFO.

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

PLACE ACQUIRED

SUPPLEMENT TO 50X1-HUM
REPORT

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1. Personnel

- a. The present Hauptdirektor is Dr. Heyder (fnu). Fedorov, the former Russian deputy head director, and the female accountant Lesina (fnu) are both still at the plant. Fedorov is said to be occupying a small and inconspicuous office and to have only a small car. His reason for staying on is said to be to watch over the results of the change of ownership, as well as to keep an eye on outstanding Russian orders.
- b. Following the departure of Personnel Director Kurzer, who left after some trouble with his female employees, the personnel department was renamed Abteilung fuer Arbeit (division for labor) and will, in the future, combine the functions of the former personnel department and the TAN¹ department.
- c. Josef Gerats has been appointed culture director.
- d. A Mr. Bauer (fnu), a member of the Volkspolizei from Wittenberg, has been appointed to work with Dr. Woempner in the technical directorate on questions of the plant's security.
- e. A certain Dip. Ing. Hund has recently returned from the USSR and has been appointed to the central research laboratory as an engineer. It has been reported that he was employed in the aircraft industry while in the USSR.
- f. Ing. Fische of the planning department and Ing. Ganzert of the Waermetechnische Abteilung (thermo-technical department) are both said to have fled the former after his small son had criticized Wilhelm Pieck at school, and the latter after getting married.

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50X1-HUM

-2-

2. New Construction

A new plant is being built for the production of "Nitrophos", which is an artificial fertilizer made from apatite.

3. Changes in the Research Program

- a. The Russian research assignment concerning the production of very pure selenic and telluric acids was cancelled without any explanation. The cancellation was transmitted by telegram from the SAG headquarters at Weissensee.
- b. The experimental chlorinating oven is now complete and it is expected that the plant will no longer concern itself with this assignment.

4. Further Tests on the New Iguirit

This material has now been tested against hydrofluoric acid. Two samples of the so-called "impregnated" variety, (that which is made by impregnating the graphite base with the plastic in vacuo) are alleged to have withstood 100% H_2F_2 at 300°C and 100 atmospheres pressure for nine hours (when the apparatus broke down), without undergoing any change. Two samples of the cast and pressed variety, on the other hand, vanished without trace under the same conditions.

5. Methylene Chloride and Vinlychloride

Production is at a standstill because of a lack of MeOH.

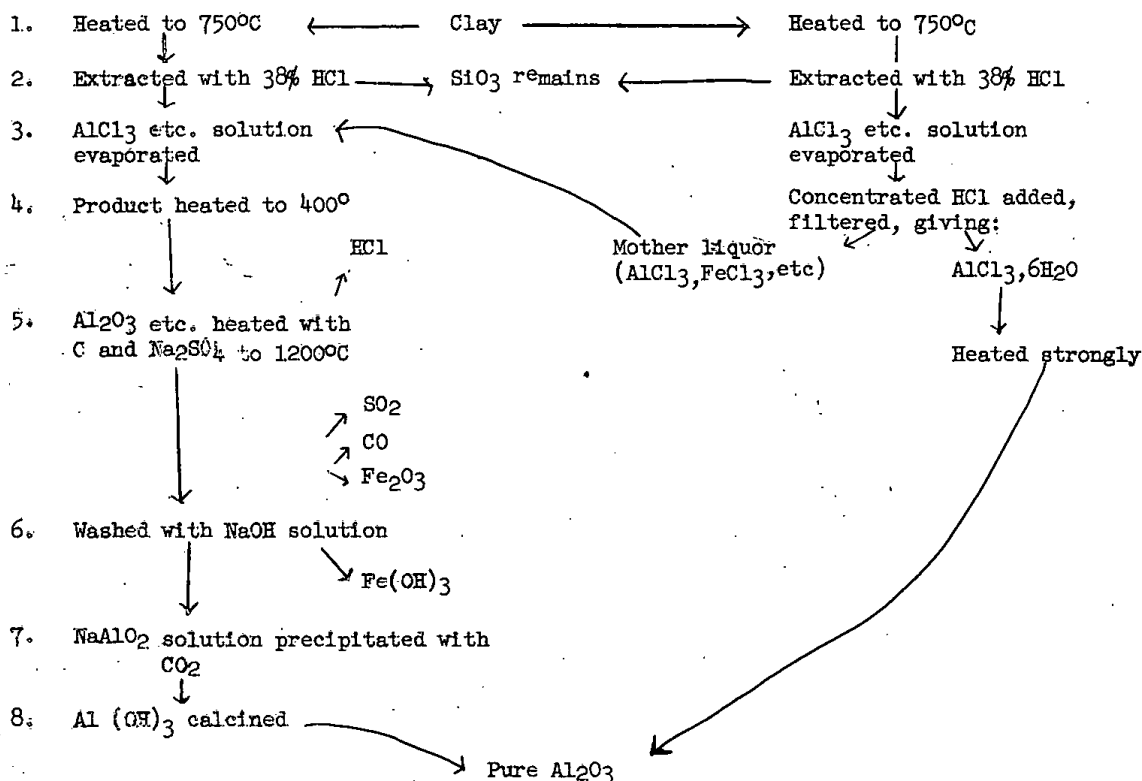
6. Aluminum Production, Present and Planned.

- a. Purest aluminum is at present being produced at about one to three tons per month.
- b. The alumina situation is at present reasonably satisfactory. It is confirmed that at the moment all the supplies of alumina received by Bitterfeld stem from Hungary, either direct or via Lautawerk where bauxite is processed.
- c. The project for extracting alumina from German clay is proceeding. There is said to have been a big clay strike between Piskowitz³ and Wiesa⁴ in Saxony. A brick plant is to be built there (sic) in order that the less valuable clay can also be utilized.
- d. The alumina plan will take the following form: First, a plant with half the total projected capacity will be built which will process clay by the "Combined" or Specketer-Penjakoff process. When this is successfully in operation, a second half-capacity plant will be built, which will use the cheaper pure Specketer process. The significance of this plan is that the combined process plant will then be able to utilize the mother liquor from the pure Specketer works, thus cutting out the weakest spot in the latter process. The combined plan, will therefore be as follows:

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-3-

"Combined" WorksPure Specketer Works7. Morale

There is said to be much discontent in the plant over the increased security measures and the growing influence of the SED. In particular, the creation of a National Army has given rise to considerable misgiving and unrest. The following story illustrates the present feeling. Four men, Dip. Ing. Zipherling, Ing. Thum, Knauth and Panzer, recently resigned from the SED as a protest against the creation of a National Army. As a result, it was ordered that they be fired on one pretext or another. This task fell to one Rudi Ziegler, an old colleague of theirs. Rather than carry out these orders, Ziegler drowned himself on the Tuesday after Whitsunday, having taken the trouble to make his motive quite clear. A mild man, liked by all, although an SED functionary, his death has caused considerable consternation. Nothing further has been done against the recanters.

50X1-HUM

1. Comment: Technische Arbeits Normen.
2. Comment: These results are the results of tests conducted by a Dr. Gebhard.
3. Comment: Not further identified.
4. Comment: Probably Kaolin und Tonwerk Wiesa (VVE Keramik).
5. Comment: In the instances where this report conflicts with the information in this report is believed to be more reliable.

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